FARMING

AND

RANCHING

IN THE

CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

GENERAL ACCOUNT OF MANITOBA AND THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES.

SUPERIOR ADVANTAGES FOR AGRICULTURAL SETTLERS.

UNRIVALLED RANCHING DISTRICTS.

FREE GRANTS AND CHEAP LANDS, AND HOW TO GET THEM.

CLIMATE AND HEALTH.

HOW TO GO, AND WHAT TO DO AT THE START.

TESTIMONY OF ACTUAL SETTLERS

DOMINION OF CANADA
Map of THE Canadian Pacific RAILWAY AND ITS CONNECTIONS
CANADA BANK NOTE CO., PRINTERS.

FARMING

AND

RANCHING

IN THE

CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

GENERAL ACCOUNT OF MANITOBA AND THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

SUPERIOR ADVANTAGES FOR AGRICULTURAL SETTLERS.

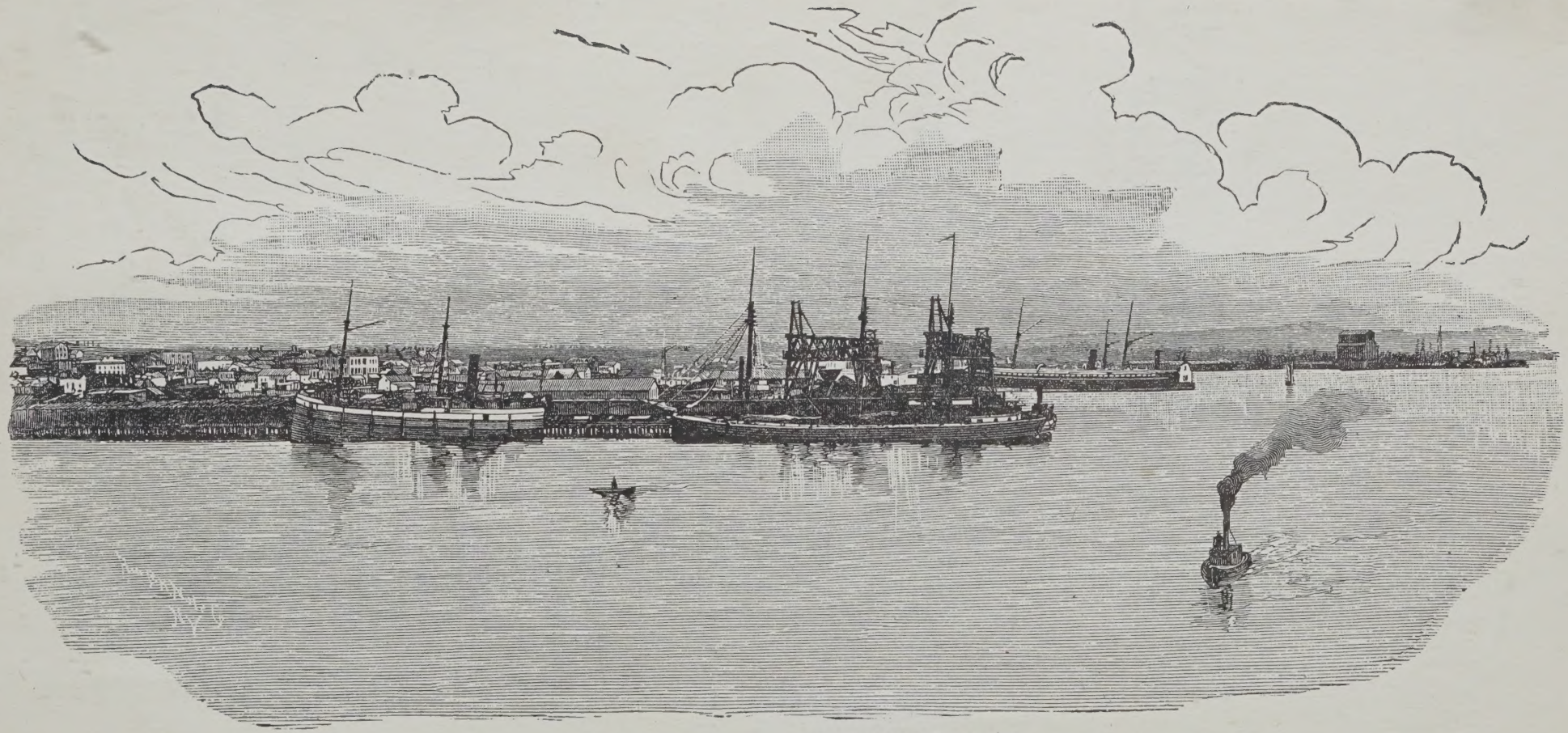
UNRIVALLED RANCHING DISTRICTS.

FREE GRANTS AND CHEAP LANDS, AND HOW TO GET THEM.

CLIMATE AND HEALTH.

HOW TO GO, AND WHAT TO DO AT THE START.

TESTIMONY OF ACTUAL SETTLERS.



PORT ARTHUR—At head of Lake Superior.

THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

THE COUNTRY OF ALL OTHERS FOR THE FARMER AND RANCHMAN.

It is no longer a matter of argument that there is no better country than the Canadian North-West for the farmer-immigrant. Results have demonstrated that fact, beyond any question of doubt. The Provinces of Manitoba and Assiniboia raised in 1886, ten millions ; in 1887, nearly fourteen millions of bushels of wheat, and a proportionate quantity of other grains ; they are exporting potatoes to Ontario, and took the prize in competition with all Canada for certain dairy products. In Alberta there are 20,000 head of neat cattle, 30,000 horses, and 25,000 sheep pastured upon leased ranches. Of these, there were shipped to Montreal, as an experiment, during the Autumn of last year, principally for export, 1,500 head of cattle. They realized prices which gave a very profitable return to the Ranchers, and the beef at once took first rank in the Eastern markets. In England the cattle were highly spoken of and sold at prices which gave to the shipper a good return on his investment. This is the first year of exportation of cattle, from the Canadian Ranches, but the experiment has been so successful that no doubt is entertained of a large and highly profitable export trade being established in the immediate future.

Experience has therefore shown that the objections which its detractors have urged against the Canadian North-West, were simply put forward with the intention of diverting emigrants from the country. There is no more advantageous locality on the Continent of America for the investment of capital in agriculture and cattle raising, or for the man without capital to acquire a competence by industry, than on the Canadian prairies.

The question, then, before the intending emigrant, is not whether it is a good thing to go to the Canadian North-West, but simply in what part of that great wheat empire it will be best to make his home; what particular line of agricultural industry he shall engage in, and how best to prepare for it.

To give information and advice upon these points is the object of the present pamphlet.

Why the Canadian North-West Should be Preferred to the United States.

The Canadian North-West should be preferred by Canadians and Englishmen to the United States in the first place because it *is* Canadian. The men of the Maritime Provinces, Quebec and Ontario, who emigrate to Manitoba, or the other prairie provinces, do not find themselves among aliens, and obliged to learn new laws or conform to novel customs, but remain among people whose sentiments, habits and political views are identical with their own, and whose business interests are not antagonistic to those of the friends and relatives left behind.

Secondly, the Canadian North-West is the newest and offers its virgin soil at first hand to the settler. In the United States prairie regions almost no land worth the having remains for free entry. The grazing lands there were long ago filled to overcrowding; indeed, the ranchers

of Montana and Dakota are already looking to the Canadian North-West for the purpose of extending their operations and taking advantage of what has proved to be a country with a better and milder climate in winter, and with more nourishing grasses. The fact has been actually demonstrated that cattle driven across the border and into the Canadian ranches improved in condition each day of their march; and no finer cattle are to-day shipped across the Atlantic than those which have matured on the Western Canadian plains. In the neighbouring States the mineral and timber lands have been seized upon everywhere; in fact, the opportunities which offer in the early development of a new country have there, for the most part passed by. The hardy pioneers of the Canadian North-West have tested the capabilities of the prairie and explored the mountains and forests. The country has been thoroughly examined. and opened for settlement, and the earlier settlers, both on ranch and farm, are reaping the first benefits. But there is a vast territory, and ample room, and to the earliest on the ground are open the opportunities for best choice, and remunerative investment of time and money.

Then again, the Canadian laws relating to the acquirement and tenure of land, for both agriculture and stock raising, are more liberal and easy for the new comer than those of the United States.

Before a foreigner can become a landholder, under the homestead regulations of the United States, he is obliged to take the American oath of allegiance, and renounce that of the country of his birth. This is not the place to criticise the propriety of the American Government in exacting such an oath; but it is quite pertinent for us to ask whether it is a desirable thing for a foreigner to subject himself to it. *No such oath is necessary in Canada to enable a man to take up land; it is free to all.*

For a farmer, it is quite clear that he loses by settling upon a homestead in any of the North-Western States or Territories of the Union, rather than in Manitoba or Assiniboia, since there is no doubt that, acre for acre, the Canadian can raise more wheat and better wheat, than his American rival has yet been able to do. From an article in the *Canadian Gazette* for April 19th, 1883 the following pertinent paragraphs are quoted, as applying here, because experience since that time has more than borne out the statements made.

"Taking from official sources the average yield of grain per acre, during the last six years, in Canadian territories and the United States, the following is the result :—

	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.
Canadian Northwest.....	28	59	41
United States.....	15	32	22

"The greater advantage, in point of yield, of Canada, is at once strikingly apparent. The quality, too, is first class. Flour bearing the Manitoba brand commands the best prices in the market, and many United States millers prefer Canadian grain to that grown in the States. The possibilities of grain-growing in the Canadian territories are almost beyond estimate.

A practical question will suggest itself respecting the comparative accessibility to eastern markets of Canadian and United States produce. At present Port Arthur may be considered the collecting and distributing point for the agricultural products of the Canadian North-West. Its distance from Liverpool, *via* the Canadian Pacific Railway and Montreal, is about 200 miles shorter than from Chicago, whence the products of the Western and North Western States to a great extent find their way to the sea-board. So that the Canadian wheat fields are in a more favorable position for the exportation of produce to those of the Western and North Western States, while, from the Canadian average yield being nearly double that of the States, grain can be practically grown in the former with half the land, seed, and labor required in the latter.

The surveying systems of both Governments being the same, the division of the public lands into square miles, halves and quarters, gives the same unit of 160 acres as the homestead in each; but the conditions of this free grant are harder on the American than on the Canadian side. In the United States, the applicant must be 21 years of age, and if he chooses land rated at $2.50 (10s.) an acre, he can take only 80 acres; while in Canada, *all* the lands open for homesteading are in lots of not less than 160 acres. In the United States, the fee for "taking up" a homestead is $26 (£5 4s.), whereas in Canada it is only $10 (£2). In the United States, five years of actual residence upon his land is required of the homesteader, while in Canada, three years suffice to put him in complete possession. Moreover, in Canada, the taking of a homestead does not prevent a man from the pre-emption of other Government lands, while, in the United States, a man who has one homestead cannot enter for another. In Canada, a man may commute by purchase, after one year's residence and cultivation; in the United States, he cannot do this.

The matter of taxes is another most important point of difference in favor of the Canadian settler. By the very simple municipal organization of communities (as fast as settlements require any government at all), local affairs are managed at home with but little expense. A reeve and council are elected each year by the people, and this organization takes charge of all local matters, the most important item of which is road building and repairing. There being no turnpike trusts, each landholder works out his road-tax by his own labor, or the labor of his teams. Government aid has hitherto been given towards the few expensive bridges or other public works called for by the people.

Courts and police are provided by the general Government, which also makes liberal grants for schools. Two

sections in each township are set apart by the Dominion Government, the proceeds of which, when sold, are applied to the support of schools.

There is a superintendent in each district, and teachers are required to pass a rigid examination. The result is that public schools throughout the West, are highly creditable and effective. Academies and colleges are found in Winnipeg and several of the larger towns, some of them under the control of religious bodies, others in the form of private enterprise.

Except in Manitoba, there are, as yet, no Provincial Governments to be supported. The people of Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and Athabasca manage public affairs through a small representative body called the Council of the North-West Territories, which meets once a year at Regina, and is presided over by a Lieutenant-Governor, appointed and paid by the Dominion.

This simplicity, and the favorable situation generally, makes taxation very light. An article in the *Canadian Colonist*, (Montreal Oct. 1887) contains statements on this subject well worth remembering:

"Since the excellent crops that have blessed and distinguished the Canadian Northwest this year have been successfully gathered, there has been a marked increase in the immigration from Dakota and Montana of farmers who have tried these districts and found them wanting. The amount of taxation is one of the greatest complaints, many Dakota men finding that they need pay in Manitoba or Assiniboia only a fourth or fifth as much as a similar amount of property in Dakota costs them.

"The advantage in favor of a settler this side the line, would be considerable anywhere; but is especially true of settlements like those near Turtle Mountain, which are quite as far, or farther from the nearest American railway than those this side the line are from the nearest Manitoba railway. Here, supposing the price of wheat were the same and the cost of hauling the same, the difference between ten or twelve dollars taxes in Canada and $50 or $75 in Dakota would represent a profit well worth considering to the beginner, if this were the only advantage. This matter of taxes was very thoroughly treated some time ago by Mr. J. H. Wood, who wrote a blue book essay published by the Dominion agricultural department containing some statistics.

" In northern Dakota, he says, I was brought into contact with the tax collector, and found a wonderful difference between Dakota and Manitoba. A friend of mine from the county of Oxford informed me that last year his taxes on one half-section and his farming outfit were $75. This year he expected to get off with $20 less. There, every implement on the farm from the hoe to the self binder is taxed—the stoves and furniture in the house, the watch in the man's pocket, the money and notes in his drawer, and if the assessor has any doubts about the amount of said notes he is authorized to take an affidavit to the statement. I was not prepared to learn that the heaviest item of their taxation was a direct tax for the general government. The board of commissioners for the county of Pembina was sitting when I was there, whose duty it is to settle the rates of taxation. The following is the schedule:

Territorial	3 2-10	mills on the dollar.
County rates	2 5-19	do
Schools	2	do
Roads and bridges	1	do
Court House bonds	1 3-10	do

" I may also mention that when taxes are in arrears for one year, the land, with the owner's name, is advertized for sale, and the county paper for this county of Pembina has a page and two columns, in fine print, or by measurement over 2,500 parcels, advertised for sale on the 4th of October. The result of all this is that land is rapidly falling into the hands of the " money sharks," as they are called.

" In the same report, Mr. Wood pointed out certain other disadvantages, as follows:—' Another grievous disability that the farmers in Dakota complained of was the scarcity of water. Those who were from six to ten miles from the river had to draw it that distance in waggon-boxes fitted for the purpose, and for threshing by steam, it required two and sometimes three teams to keep up the supply of water. This surely made threshing an expensive item, six cents per bushel being the cost to the farmer, besides boarding the men. In Manitoba it is done for three cents per bushel.'

" There is still another difficulty with which the farmer is called to wrestle and is at a disadvantage with the Manitoba settler. The farming implement man has been around and has done a large business on the credit plan. The notes at 12 per cent. are past due, and where there is $200 owing, the farmer is given his choice either to be saddled with costs for collection, or pay the dealer a bonus of $40 for another year's grace. As a rule they accept the latter alternative, the note with its 12 per cent. interest still remaining in full."

Climate.

A great deal has been written, and much misrepresentation indulged in, about the heat of summer and the cold of the Canadian winters.

That the winter is cold, there is no doubt, but it is not so severe as that of many European countries.

"I did not myself notice the slightest difference," writes the embassador of the bankers of Amsterdam, "between the climate of Minnesota and Manitoba, and I am persuaded that the erroneous reports, to which I have referred, are circulated in the interests of Minnesota, Dakota, and other American States, and solely with the object of discrediting Canada, and counteracting the continually increasing flow of emigration to Manitoba and the Canadian North-West."

The atmosphere is bright, the sun shines almost every day, and when it is very cold, there is seldom any wind; the air is still, and although cold, is extremely bracing and health giving. "Blizzards" are scarcely known, and cyclones which periodically sweep over the Western and North-Western States and Territories of the United States, leaving destruction and desolation in their path, have never visited any portion of Canada.

"The mean temperature of Winnipeg in June, July and August, is 62.8 F.; at Penzance in Cornwall, during the same period, it is 60.90. Summer heat is usually about 70°, although the thermometer occasionally rises to 100°, but the nights are cool. In winter, the temperature sometimes falls to 30° or 40° below zero. It is a singular fact, however, that Europeans do not feel the cold as much as Canadians do, and this is most likely in consequence of the dryness of the atmosphere."

This dryness of the air is the secret of the degree of comfort experienced even when the mercury is very low, for that sensation of penetrating chill which makes the cold weather of coast regions so unpleasant and unhealthy, is rarely felt. Snow never falls to a great depth and the railway trains across the plains have never been seriously impeded by it. As this snow is perfectly dry, a person

never has wet feet or soaked clothing by it. There is no thawing after winter sets in—say the last of November; only steady, bright frost until March. Men travel with teams everywhere, taking their grain to market, hauling fuel, building and fencing material, and doing all their work. Stock thrive well out of doors so far as the cold is concerned, and along the base of the Rockies, where warm, dry Chinook winds from the west absorb the snow rapidly, herds of horses and cattle have hitherto been left out all winter, to shift for themselves. Calves and lambs are born on the open prairie in January and February, and not only live but grow fat. Everyone unites in testifying to the healthfulness of the country.

"One of the most important factors in regard to health," to quote a recent writer, "is a good water supply, which the territories enjoy in a peculiar degree. To the home this matter is of first importance. For the farmer and stock-raiser, too, the water question is of equal moment. Rivers, streams, lakes, and lakelets abound; but when these are too far off, or the water is brackish, as some of it is, a constant supply of pure water may be had by digging eight or ten feet into the earth."

The seasons in the West are well marked. Ploughing can often be commenced about the end of March, but generally not before April 5. The snow disappears rapidly and the ground dries quickly. Winter closes promptly and decisively, and does not "linger in the lap of spring." Sowing is done during almost the whole of April, and is finished early in May.

The summer months have bright, clear, and often very warm weather; but the nights are cool. The days are very long on account of the high latitude, and grain has some hours more each day for ripening than in southerly latitudes, thus making up for the comparatively shorter season. Harvesting begins about the middle of August and ends early in September, all the grains coming pretty well together. A summer frost, sufficient to do any damage, is exceptional. One such occurred on the night

of Sept. 7, 1883, but this extended over a large part of the United States as well, where no farmer ever gives a moment's anxiety to the probability of frost before harvest. After the second week of September, however, there is always danger; and it is hese late frosts, erroneously called "summer" frosts which have given rise to misleading reports. A country that can produce twelve million bushels of wheat beyond its own consumption, as the Canadian North-West did in 1887, cannot be condemned on the score of summer frosts. "But some years were to a great extent, failures," it may be replied, yes, but those were in the early days of agriculture, before farmers had learned the secret of sowing early—as soon as two or three inches depth of frost are out of the ground—and before they had used *acclimatized* seed of the proper varieties, (principally red Fyfe) as they are now doing. There is no more reason to fear grain-killing frosts in Manitoba or Assiniboia, hereafter, under proper cultivation, than in Ontario or Iowa.

There is no lack of rain during the growing time of the year throughout Manitoba, Assiniboia and Saskatchewan. Even in the districts west of the South Saskatchewan, which were not considered altogether the best for wheat growing, a great deal of farming has been done with much success, as shown by the results of the ten experimental farms of the Canadian Pacific scattered between Moose Jaw and Calgary. Mixed farming will undoubtedly be followed to a lage extent in this district, as being best adapted to the soil and climate.

Fuel.

Although wood is scarce in certain districts, there is no difficulty in obtaining the best of coal at a very moderate price. It is shipped daily from the Lethbridge mine to every point of importance on the line of railway, and can also be obtained from the mines near

Medicine Hat. Settlers find no difficulty in securing their winter supply of fuel. Anthracite or hard coal is also being mined at Anthracite on the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains, and when fully developed, an unlimited quantity can be produced. Intending settlers, therefore, need have no anxiety on the question of fuel in any part of Manitoba and the Northwest. The price of bituminous coal ranges from $4 (16s.) to $8 (32s.) per ton, according to the distance from the mines.

Tree Culture.

Tree culture has not yet claimed the attention in the Canadian North-West that it has received in many parts of the plains south of the boundary line. There is no reason to doubt, however, that in the early future a very large aggregate area of trees will be planted in all parts of the plains, and what has been done already in that direction shows that success will follow. In the neighborhood of Portage la Prairie in particular, farmers who have been there for eight or ten years, have, in many cases, protected themselves with groves of trees, that form most valuable wind-breaks about their houses and barns. The most notable example of this is the estate of Mr. Sissons', whose buildings appear to be just by the side of an unusually large natural grove. These, however, are all trees of his own planting, and have grown from the seed. They are the native oak, maple, poplar, ash and cherry. Of these, the oak and ash are of comparatively slow growth, but the maple and poplar grow with great rapidity, and in the course of half a dozen years, become good sized trees.

System of Survey.

This whole region has now been accurately surveyed by the Dominion Government, and parcelled out into square and uniform lots, distinctly marked, on the following plan :—All the land is divided into "townships" six

miles square, the eastern and western bounds of which are true meridian lines forming the eastern and western boundaries of the ranges, while the northern and southern sides follow parallels latitude. Each township contains thirty-six "sections" of 640 acres, or one square mile each, which are again subdivided into quarter sections of 160 acres. A road-allowance, one chain wide, is provided for between each section running north and south, and between every alternate section east and west, making a net-work of public roads crossing at right angles, those north and south, one mile apart, and those east and west two miles apart. In the earlier surveys, road-allowances of one and one-half chains (99 feet) are left between all sections, so that the roads in both directions are only one mile apart. This system applies to the greater portion of the Province of Manitoba.

It will thus be seen that the sections in each township are apportioned as follows :—

OPEN FOR HOMESTEAD AND PRE-EMPTIONS.—Nos. 2, 4. 6, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY SECTIONS.—Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 31, 33, 35.

Nos. 1, 9, 13, 21, 25, 33 along the main line, Winnipeg to Moose-Jaw, sold to Canada North-West Land Company, with some additional sections throughout Manitoba to make up their purchase of 2,200,000 acres.

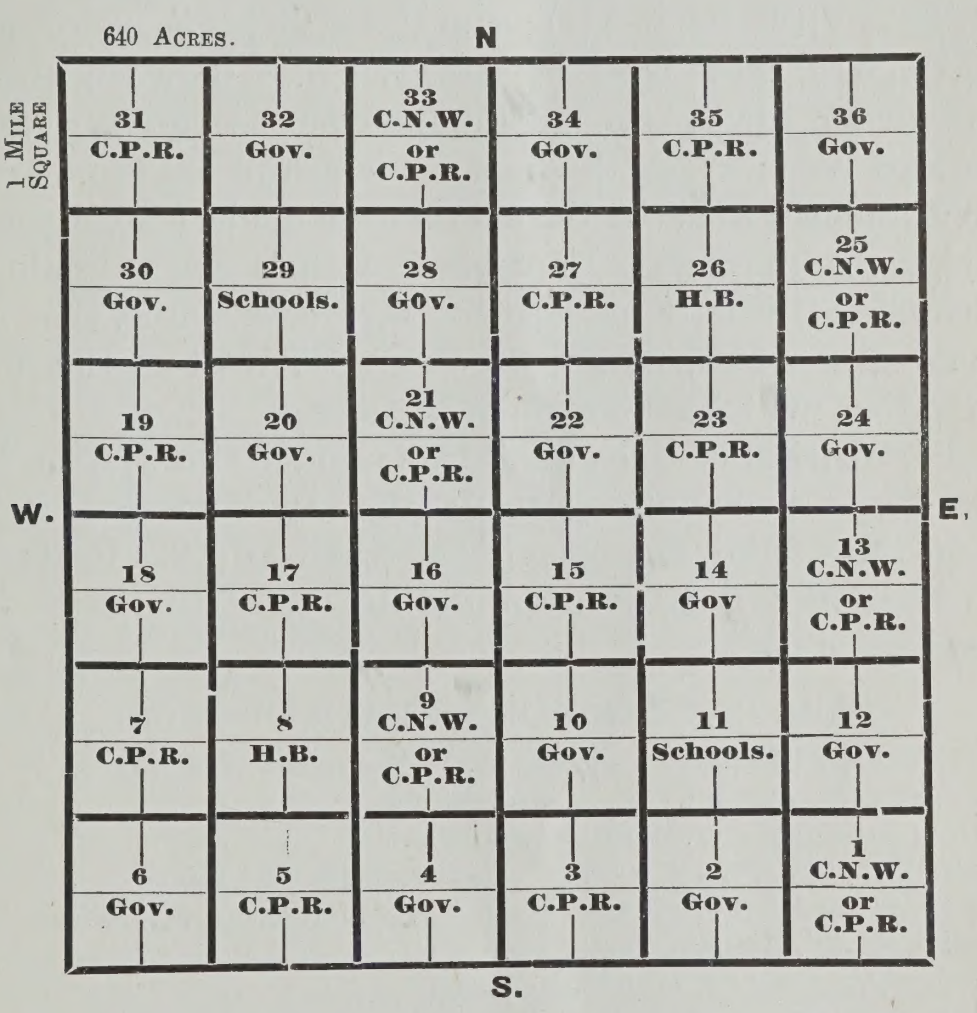
SCHOOL SECTIONS.—Nos. 11, 29, (reserved by Government solely for school purposes).

HUDSON'S BAY SECTIONS.—Nos. 8 and 26.

The surveyed lands are marked on the ground itself by iron and other kinds of monuments at the corners of the sub-divisions, and so soon as the new comer makes himself acquainted with these, he can instantly determine the position and extent of his own or any other farm on the prairie.

The following diagram illustrate this, and shows how the ownership of the land is divided within "the fertile belt," which extends along the Canadian Pacific Railway, with a breadth of twenty-four miles on each side of the line :—

TOWNSHIP DIAGRAM.



C. P. R.—Canadian Pacific Railway Company's Lands. GOV.—Government Homestead and Pre-emption Lands. SCHOOLS.—Sections reserved for support of Schools. H. B.—Hudson Bay Company's Lands. C. N. W.—Canada North-West Land Company's Lands for as far west from Winnipeg as Moose-Jaw only. Sections 1. 9, 13, 21, 25, and 33, from Moose-Jaw west-ward, still belong to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

The whole plains region is furthermore divided by five "meridians," which serve as base-lines for accurate surveying. The first of these is near the true meridian of 97° 30′, about 12 miles west of Winnipeg; the second, a short distance west of the western boundary of Manitoba, in longitude 102°; the third crosses Assiniboia near Moose-jaw, in longitude 106°; the fourth passes through the Cypress Hills (long. 110); and the fifth is the longitude of Calgary, 114° west of Greenwich. Between these meridians, the ranges are numbered consecutively from east to west; while the tiers of townships are numbered continuously from the United States boundary northward as far as they go. To designate one's exact locality, therefore, it is only necessary to say, for example, that he is in section 23, township 10, range 19, west of the first meridian, which is the site of Brandon.

For disposal of the public lands under this system, by free-grant, pre-emption or sale, the Dominion has established the following agencies, at which all the business in relation to lands within the district of each must be transacted :—

DOMINION LAND OFFICES AND DISTRICTS:

WINNIPEG DISTRICT.—Agent: A. H. WHITCHER, Winnipeg.
DUFFERIN.—Agent: GEO. YOUNG, Manitou.
SOURIS.—Agent: W. H. HIAM, Brandon.
TURTLE MOUNTAIN.—Agent JOHN FLESHER, Deloraine.
LITTLE SASKATCHEWAN.—Agent: W. M. HILLIARD, Minnedosa.
BIRTLE.—W. G. PENTLAND. Birtle.
COTEAU.—Agent: J. J. McHUGH, Carlyle.
QU'APPELLE.—Agent: W. H. STEVENSON, Regina.
TOUCHWOOD.—Agent: W. H. STEVENSON, Regina.
SWIFT CURRENT.—Acting Agent: W. H. STEVENSON, Regina.
CALGARY.—Agent: AMOS ROWE, Calgary.
LETHBRIDGE.—Agent: E. G. KIRBY, Lethbridge.
EDMONTON.—Agent: P. V. GAUVREAU, Edmonton.
BATTLEFORD.—Agent: E. BROKOVSKI, Battleford.
PRINCE ALBERT.—Agent: J. McTAGGART, Prince Albert.
MEDICINE HAT.—E. ROCHESTER, Agent in charge.
BANFF PARK.—E. A. NASH, Agent aud Accountant.
BRITISH COLUMBIA.—Agent: H. B. W. AIKMAN, New Westminster.

At the offices in these districts, detailed maps will be found, showing the exact homestead and pre-emption lands vacant. The Agents are always ready to give every assistance and information in their power.

The disposal of Canadian Pacific Railway lands in all parts of Manitoba is in charge of L. A. Hamilton, the Company's Land Commissioner at Winnipeg; and, settlers arriving in Winnipeg should, before going West, call at the Land Department of the Company, the office of which is situated in the station, where they can ascertain the location of the Government intelligence offices, and other information.

For the convenience of applicants, information as to prices and terms of purchase of Railway lands may also be obtained from all station agents along the Company's main line and branches. When the agent is not supplied with full information upon any particular point, he will telegraph the Land Commissioner. In no case is an agent entitled to receive money in payment for lands. All payments must be remitted direct to the Land Commissioner at Winnipeg.

INTERIOR VIEW OF CANADIAN PACIFIC COLONIST CAR.

BEGINNING FARMING IN THE WEST.

The new comer need not fear that when he reaches Winnipeg he will fall into the hands of thieves, impostors, or unfriendly people. If he follows the directions of this pamphlet, he will put himself in the hands of real friends, who will look after him. At Winnipeg, the Government have erected a commodious barracks, which is kept in a tidy and healthful condition, and serves as a suitable temporary home for immigrants during the few days' delay which may intervene before they can go to their own homesteads. The train is met upon its arrival by the agents of the Government and of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, who take charge of immigrants and give them all the assistance and advice they need in a strange land.

No railway in America offers such good accommodation to second class, or colonist passengers, as does the Canadian Pacific. Colonists from Europe are able to travel to new homes in Ontario, Manitoba, the North-West or British Columbia, in nearly as great comfort as first-class passengers.

The cars devoted to the use of colonists are taken upon the same fast trains with the first class cars. They are convertible into sleeping cars at night, having upper and lower berths constructed on the same principle as those of the first class sleeping cars, and equally comfortable as to

ventilation, etc. *They are taken through, without change, all the way from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. No other Railway in America can do this.* No extra charge is made for the sleeping accommodation. Second class passengers, however, must provide their own bedding. If they do not bring it with them, a complete outfit of mattress, pillow, blanket and curtains will be supplied by the agent of the company at the point of starting, at a cost of $2.50 (ten shillings). The curtains may be hung around a berth, turning it into a little private room. In addition to this men travelling alone are cut off from families by a partition across the car near the middle; and smoking is not permitted in that part of the car where the women and children are.

At short intervals, the train stops at stations where meals are served in refreshment rooms, and where hot coffee and tea, and well-cooked food may be bought at very reasonable prices. The cars are not allowed to become over-crowded, and the safety and welfare of colonist or second class passengers are carefully attended to. The baggage arrangements are the same as for first class passengers, and every possible care is taken that the colonist does not go astray, lose his property or suffer imposition. Where a large number of colonists are going to the Far West together, special fast trains of colonist sleeping cars are dispatched.

Let us now return from this digression to the settlers who, immediately upon their arrival in Winnipeg, are met by the emigration agents of the Government and the Canadian Pacific Railway.

In cases where they have already fixed upon some locality for settlement, where friends are awaiting them, they are shewn how to proceed directly to that point. If they have not decided upon such a locality, but intend to seek a home somewhere further West, they should imme-

diately call upon the Land Commissioner of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. The price of the Railway lands for sale, their nearness to a railway station or market, the amount of settlement, the nationality of people in the neighborhood, and the exact character of the soil can be learned at his office. *Every quarter section of the whole vast area owned by the Railway Company has been gone over by official inspectors and reported upon in detail.*

All this information is open to the intending settler. If the land of a certain section is sandy, or rocky, or marshy, or alkaline, or otherwise unsuitable for farming, he is told so; if it is good land for grazing, but poor for farming, he learns that; if it is thoroughly fertile and desirable, this will be pointed out. In short, the whole truth, whether it is favorable or unfavorable, can be learned from the maps and surveyor's notes shewn in this office.

Most men, nevertheless, naturally wish to examine for themselves the section which seems to them from these reports most suitable, and this is strongly recommended in every case. They are then told what is the quickest and cheapest way to reach it, (special facilities being provided for this purpose) and, when necessary, are furnished by the Dominion Government Intelligence Officer with a guide, who either accompanies them all the way from Winnipeg, or meets them at the nearest railway station, and goes with them to the designated locality. If they are pleased (which is usually the case) all the arrangements for taking it up, or for its purchase, are made at once at the nearest agency, and they can immediately take posession. Only a very few days, therefore, need elapse between the arrival of an immigrant in Winnipeg and his settlement upon the land of his choice.

Meanwhile, his family and baggage can remain at the Immigrant House in safety and comfort. Providing them-

selves with food in the city markets, they can cook their own meals upon the stoves in the house; and, with the bedding which has served them during their journey, they can sleep in comfort in the bunk-bedsteads with which the rooms are fitted. Should they prefer, however, to stop at a hotel, they will find in Winnipeg public houses of all grades, where the total cost for each person varies from $1 (4s.) to $3 (12s.) a day, according to accommodation desired.

It sometimes happens that the immigrant has not much more than sufficient money to carry him as far as Winnipeg. In that case it will be necessary for him to begin immediately to earn some money, but it is far better to come provided with a "shot in the locker."

The Dominion Government has an agency in Winnipeg whose business it is to be informed where labor is needed. For Scandinavians and Danes there is a special agency under the auspices of the Scandinavian Society of Manitoba, which welcomes and assists poor people of those nationalities.

The arrival of a party of immigrants is always announced in advance, and it has often happened that contractors who were employing men in building, railway construction, or in some other work in the city of Winnipeg, or neighborhood, have agreed in advance to take as many of the newcomers as might choose to go to work with them. At Brandon, Moosomin, and other stations further west, farmers often come in from long distances to meet parties of immigrants, in the hope of finding among them one or more able assistant, to whom they offer a temporary home, an opportunity to learn farming, and wages from $5.00 per month upwards, according to qualifications, from the very start. Experienced farm hands receive as high as $35.00 per month. Women and girls who are accustomed to housework, and of a willing mind, are

always in great demand in Winnipeg and other towns, and can earn $8.00 to $20.00 per month and board. There is no reason, therefore, why honest, industrious and capable men or women should not be able to find steady employment within a very few days after their arrival.

COST OF PROVISIONS.

	Manitoba. Winnipeg.				British Columbia. Victoria.			
	s.	d.		s. d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Bacon, per lb				0 7½			0	9
Bread, per loaf				0 6½	...	...	...	...
Butter, per lb	0	9	to	1 3	...	...	...	...
Beef, per lb	0	5	"	0 7½	0	3½	to 0	7½
Mutton, per lb	0	6	"	0 9	0	3	" 0	6
Cheese, per lb	0	7½	"	0 9	1	0	" 1	3
Coffee, per lb	1	0	"	1 8			1	8
Flour, per barrel	15	0	"	17 0	20	0	" 21	0
Milk, per quart				0 9¼	...	...	...	...
Potatoes, 1½ bushels				2 6	Per lb., 1d.			
Sugar, per lb	0	3	"	0 4	7 to 9 lbs. for 4s.			
Tea, per lb	0	10	"	2 5	1	0	to 3	0
Tobacco, per lb	2	0	"	3 0	2	0	to 4	0

RENTS.

Rent varies greatly; roughly speaking, a wooden house with four or five rooms may be obtained in the towns for 24s. to 32s. a month. Single men can obtain board and lodging from 14s. per week in the East, 16s. in the North-West, and 20s. in British Columbia.

For those who wish to live in idleness or expect to get rich in some uncertain way without work, the Northwest is no place. Mr. R. B. P. Anderson of Listowel, County Kerry, Ireland, one of the practical agricultural delegates to Canada, in his report, says:

" If I am asked who ought to go to Manitoba and the Northwest, I unhesitatingly say, any man who for any reason intends to emigrate to any place and is not afraid of hard work and some discomfort for a few years, and whose family can get on for a time without the aid of female servants. Such a man will, if he has pluck, succeed in time, though he went without a penny; but if he has £100 or £200 in his pocket he may expect to enjoy a prosperous and happy home in the immediatefuture."

In another place, this same gentleman mingles warning and encouragement in the following language :

The rich soil that with a little labor pours forth its abundance, is to be had for nothing. The climate is good for man, beast, and crops. This, the appearance of all three puts beyond a question. The people are law-abiding and kind, the prices to be had for every thing at present are very good. Every part of the country being in direct communication with the home markets,the settler will have just cause to congratulate himself on having chosen it as his home, for, as well as bringing him greater profit, it will bring him close to—I had almost said within call of his friends in the old country—much closer than he would be in any other colony in the world."

But while it is true that a man can go into the west with no money at all, and succeed by thrift and industry, as many and many a one has done before him, it is desirable that he should have some capital to begin upon. It will save him valuable time. The question : " How much is necessary ? " is impossible of exact answer. It depends on circumstances. Hundreds have succeeded on none at all—others have failed on ten thousand dollars. Good or bad management is the secret. Some statement of what can be done upon a certain capital, say 500 dollars (£100) or $1,000 (£200), or 3,000 dollars (£600), may, nevertheless, be advantageous.

This information has been given by many writers, in tables of various kinds and for various localities ; but all amount to about the same conclusion, namely ;

That 500 dollars (£100) will set a man down upon some western quarter-section, either a free homestead, or one chosen among the cheaper lands belonging to the Railway Company, and enable him to build a house and stay there until his farm becomes productive and self-supporting. With this capital, however, the purchase of land is not usually advisable if a suitable free grant can be obtained.

Let us quote some of the estimates, says Mr. George Broderick, in the report of the Tenant-Farmer's Delegates (1884) :—

" With regard to the capital required to make a start in farming, it is generally considered that a man with a clear £100 when he gets there, can make a good start on the free-grant lands, and instances are not unknown where men have started without anything—they have taken up grants, built houses and cultivated a little to keep their claim, and have worked for wages in the meantime. But I should certainly advise any one to take all the capital he can lay hold of, the more the better, and if they wish to invest in farming, it can be let on good land security at 8 or 10 per cent. interest. A settler will find difficulties to contend with during the first two or three years. After that, and when he has got accustomed to the country and its ways, he may live as comfortably as he can anywhere. If he be a man without much capital and takes up free-grant land, no matter how good that land is, it is in the natural state, without house or fences, and as there is really no money actually scattered about on it, it stands to reason that he cannot get anything out of it without spending a considerable amount of labor. There is a house to build, but this at first is built of wood and is put up very quickly, especially if he can get a native Canadian or two to help him, which they are always ready to do; they understand building wood houses, and if they have the wood got to the place they will erect a decent house in a week. The first year he does not get much crop off his land, and he spends it pricipally in breaking, that is ploughing the sod up two inches thick in the spring, and back-setting about four inches deep in the autumn, if he is going in for ploughing. If he is going to raise cattle, he will be building sheds, stacking hay, etc. But when he has been on his farm three years, got a neat house and cattle sheds, with good stock, or a lot of land under crop, he may live comfortably and will have to work no harder than here. His 160 acres of land that he got for a £2 fee, and his 160 acres pre-emption that he got for eight or ten shillings per acre, will, in all probability, be worth £1 or £1 10 per acre, and thus he will have made £320 or more, independent of his crops in three years. His land is his own absolutely; he has no rent to pay and very light taxes. A man with more capital, of course, can do greater things. All this depends upon the man himself. If he is not prepared to face a few hardships and a little isolation at first, he will never like the North-West; but perhaps he would never like anywhere. A requisite quality to fit a man for emigration to Canada, is the power of adaptability to circumstances. Everything is different to what it is at home, and there are many new things to learn. The best plan for an immigrant is to make the acquaintance of a few old farmers, who will teach him anything he requires."

A paper by Mr. James Riddle, also a tenant-farmer delegate from England, designed for the guidance of persons intending to settle in the West, has the following to say in regard to beginning on a homestead :—

"If the location is entered upon in spring, the party ought either to board with some neighbor, or, as is often done, tent out for the summer. This arrangement causes no delay in preparing the prairie for the following year's crops. The erection of house and other buildings can be left till the fall. As a rule, oxen are employed for the first year or two, until oats are grown for the keep of horses. It does not require a large capital to commence farming comfortably on a free-grant claim, with the intention of gradually reclaiming it; the following is the usual outlay :—

Two yoke of oxen	$260.00
One waggon	80.00
Two ploughs and harrows	58.00
Chains, axes, shovels, &c	60.00
Stoves, beds, &c	60.00
Houses and stables	200.00
Mowing-machine	80.00
Cow	35.00
Provisions for one year, say	150.00
Total	$983.00
	(£185)

"Of course many men start on a smaller scale than this, with one yoke of oxen, one plough, and without a mowing-machine."

The man Mr. Riddle had in mind, would be considered well provided for by most Western beginners.

The Guide Book for Settlers, published by the Dominion of Canada, edition of 1886, speaks as follows :—

"The settler requires either a team of horses or yoke of oxen, a waggon or a cart, a plow and harrow, chains, axes, shovels, stoves, bedsteads, etc., which he can obtain for about $300, or £60 stg. A primitive house and stable may be built for £30 more. The cost of necessary provisions for a family would be £18 to £20. The cost of these several items may vary with circumstances, either being more or less, the prices being affected by the cost of transport and railway facilities; but a settler who goes on his farm sufficiently early to plant potatoes and other crops, may live at very little cost. Or the sum of £125 stg., which is in round numbers about $600.00 of Canadian currency, would enable a farmer to begin on a

moderate scale of comfort. The sum would be divided, perhaps, in some cases, as follows:

One yoke of oxen, $120.00; one waggon, $80.00; plough and harrow, $25.00; chains, axes, shovels, etc., $30.00; stoves, bedsteads, etc., $60.00; house and stable, $150.00; provisions, $135.00; in all, $600.00. The above prices are subject to variation for the reasons above stated. Of course a capital of £200 (or $1,000) would enable a farmer to start in better style, and with more comfort; but many have started with much less, and are now well off. For instance, the Red River cart, which costs from fifteen to twenty dollars, and one ox, might do all the teaming required on a small farm to begin with, and after the first "breaking," one ox could do all the ploughing required for a family.

The German Mennonite settlers who came to Canada from Southern Russia a few years ago—or at any rate, the poorer families of them—started with very much less, and are to-day very prosperous, raising large crops of grain, and growing flax, of which they export the seed. They are also well supplied with live stock.

The Benbecula colony of Scotch crofters, settled by the aid of Lady Gordon Cathcart, upon the prairies south of Moosomin, is another example of how small beginnings, with thrift, may lead to success. After their travelling expenses had been paid, these crofters had left only about £75 (say $350) with which to provide themselves with houses, tools, seed, etc. The following may be taken as fairly representing the usual expenditure of that money, when £75 represented the entire capital at command:—

Crofters' Expenditure (*1st season.*)*

	£	s.	d.
Registration Fee and Survey Charges	2	0	0
Sow	5	0	0
Cow and Calf	15	0	0
Sundry small Tools, Spade, Shovel, Fork, Hoe, Scythe, Hammer, &c	2	16	0
Stove	5	12	0
Seed—Potatoes—12 bushels at 80 cents, $9.60 " Oats—6 bushels at 75 cents, $4.50 " Barley—4 bushels at 80 cents, $3.20	3	8	0
Share of One Yoke of Oxen between two	20	0	0
" Harness for " " "	1	8	0
" Breaking Plough between two	2	8	0
" Harrows between two	1	16	0
" Waggon between four	3	16	0
Provisions and Sundry Expenditure	11	16	0
	£75	0	0

NOTE—* These figures are considerably higher than present prices.

"By the aid of this expenditure," to adopt Prof. Tanner's words, "and by the crops grown in the first season, the crofters were able in October, 1883, to congratulate themselves upon having a 12 months' supply of food in hand, and thus within eight months from the period of their great difficulty they attained a position of comfort, and a complete, freedom from all anxious care. They realized the change in their position, and gratitude reigned supreme in their minds. Much of the success of these crofters may be traced to the fact that in the labour of the family they possessed a further source of capital. The families very generally possessed more bread-winners than the father, and as the elder children were able to earn good wages in the district, they could contribute to the general capital, and in this way, most useful additions were made to the farm stock. We must not overlook the fact that when the children are grown up, and are able to help on the farm and earn good wages, they represent so much additional capital at command.

The first year's crop of the pioneer crofters (many others have come since, so that there are now about 100 families around Benbacula, with a church, schools, and general prosperity) consisted of oats, barley and potatoes. Of oats, upon the first-breaking an average of 42 bushels an acre was raised; of barley, 37 bushels; and of potatoes, 251 bushels. One of them, Roderick McIsaac, wrote home in July of 1884:

"I never did see in all Scotland, or in any other country I was in, anything like this country. This is the bonniest place under the sun. The people who came here last year are well off now, I am very glad, in this country. I like it very well, but one thing I am sorry for, that I did not get married before I come here, for, the women are very scarce here."

Many similar instances of satisfactory progress from small beginning might be quoted from the published reports of Prof. Tanner and other well known writers.

One of the best of the personal narratives of successful men in Manitoba, was written three years ago by Mr. Peter Imrie, and this is his concluding paragraph:

"Manitoba," as Baillie Nicol Jarvie would remark, is far away from "all the comforts o' the Saut Market." So any person to whom these are a necessity, had better delay coming to Manitoba for a few years at least. It is in many respects, a sort of agricultural paradise, but for the present it is rather a dreary one. That dreariness, however, is just the price which present emigrants have to pay for their estates, and I really cannot think them dear at the cost. The feeling of loneliness must be worse in winter time; and to combat it, I would almost venture to suggest that every man going out there should take a wife with him, and that two or three should go together, and build their huts

alongside each other. It is grievous to see so many bachelors as there are in Manitoba, wasting half their time upon household work, and wearying for want of society, when both evils might have been prevented by a little forethought and courage. No doubt one cannot but have a feeling of unwillingness to ask a woman to enter on a life of even temporary roughness; but after some little experience of it myself, both in tent and shanty, I feel safe to say that no one need shrink from the experiment; in my humble opinion, it is neither disagreable nor dangerous."

About the beginning of the past season's harvest, circular letters were addressed to settlers in all parts of the country, with the object of obtaining information as to their condition and prospects. Hundreds of replies have been received, and they are coming in as we write. These will be summarised and published separately, but for the purpose of showing what a man has done who actually commenced with nothing, we give the reply of Mr. Abey of Chater, Manitoba, to the enquiries made, together with the questions asked :—

What is your nationality ? Canadian, Ottawa, Ontario.

What was your occupation and why did you leave your native country ? Had no settled occupation, came to better my condition.

When did you first settle in Manitoba ? I came to Manitoba in Spring of 1880.

Have you bettered your condition by coming ? I have.

How much capital did you commence with here ? I had 25 cents in my pocket when I came to Winnipeg, and that was borrowed. I was nearly $100 in debt then.

Did you homestead or purchase ? Homesteaded 160 acres and purchased the adjoining 160 in March last, of which I have the deed.

What do you consider the present value of your farm ? $3,500.

How many acres are there in your farm ? 320.

When is the best time for breaking new land and for backsetting ?

From 15th May to 1st July is considered the best time for breaking, and from 15th August to 15th October for backsetting, but of course these vary in a hot or dry season.

Do you consider that a partial crop can be obtained the first year of breaking, and if so the best seed to sow ? Yes. All the grain in Manitoba may be sown, such as wheat, oats, barley, peas, &c., also potatoes, carrots and turnips.

What is the cost per acre of breaking, to a farmer doing his own work, and including his own labor ? $2.00 (10s.), allowing the farmer fair wages to himself and team.

Do you consider it advisable to backset, and if so, state the additional cost? I do,—cost $2.50 to $2.75 per acre, cost in a light soil would be less.

How many acres can a man break in a day, under ordinary circumstances, with a pair of oxen or horses? From $1\frac{1}{4}$ to $1\frac{3}{4}$ acres according to soil and season.

What do you consider the cost per acre of preparing new land and sowing it with wheat, including the price of seed and also harvesting? Preparing say $5.00; seed $1.00; harrowing 30 cents; cutting 60 cents twine 25 cents; stooking and stacking $3.22. Total $10.37 (£2) per acre.

Have you found it necessary to use manure on your farm, and to what extent? I have not found it necessary.

What kind of fencing material do you use, and cost of same per rod? I have not yet used any fencing material.

19. How much land have you under cultivation, including this year's breaking? 200 acres.

How much land had you under the following crops this season, and the average yield per acre? Wheat 68 acres, average $37\frac{1}{2}$ bushels; oats 29 acres, average 58 bushels; barley 5 acres, average 30 bushels.

Please give your yield per acre in bushels of the following crops this season. Potatoes, 250 bushels; turnips, 600 bushels; carrots, 200 bushels.

What is your experience in raising vegetables in this country, and kindly name the varieties you have grown? Vegetables can be raised in great abundance, and are easily cultivated. I have grown potatoes, turnips, carrots, beets and parsnips.

Kindly state the earliest and latest dates on which you began ploughing, seeding and harvesting? Earliest seeding 6th April; harvesting 28th July 1886, and 4th August 1887.

About what time does winter regularly set in, and when does it end? About 15th November, and ends about 25th March.

Have you suffered any serious hardship or loss from the climate in winter? No.

What sort of fuel do you use and is it difficult to obtain? Wood generally. It is a considerable distance to haul, but not difficult to obtain.

Are summer frosts prevalent or exceptional? Exceptional.

Have you ever suffered any serious loss from storms during either winter or summer? I have not.

Do you consider the climate of Manitoba healthy? I consider it very healthy.

How do you generally spend the time during the winter months? In threshing and marketing grain, and obtaining a supply of fuel, etc.

How many horses and cattle have you? 5 horses. How do they thrive in winter? Well.

How do cattle thrive on the wild grasses of the prairie? Splendidly.

Is stock raising profitable where the cattle have to be housed during the winter? I think so.

What is your opinion of mixed farming, that is stock raising and grain growing combined? Just the thing for Manitoba.

Do sheep thrive and are they profitable? Sheep thrive well and I believe are profitable.

Give the names of some of the wild fruits grown in Manitoba Plums, cherries, currants, gooseberries, cranberries, strawberries, and raspberries.

How do you find prices of the necessaries of life as compared with those you paid before coming here? Very little difference.

When, in your opinion, is the best time for a settler to come to this country to start farming? In the spring.

Are you satisfied with the country, the climate and the prospects ahead of you? I am.

Kindly give any other information you may think necessary to place Manitoba before the world in its true position as an agricultural country, and a land suitable for successful settlement, as well as any facts you may think useful for intending settlers, and sign your name in full, giving your present Post Office address.

I reached Winnipeg 13th April 1880, was in debt then and worked in service for about 2 years, commenced farming in 1882, on homestead, purchased 160 acres for $800, deeded to me in March. Cost of horses and implements $1,857.00, and I have over $500 in bank to my credit, and the greater part of the past season's crop unsold; so much for agriculture in Manitoba.

(Signed), M. G. ABEY,
Chater, Manitoba.

NOTE.—It is estimated that the present value of this farm, including buildings, stock, implements, and unsold crop, is at least $7,000 (£1,400).

CHARACTERISTICS OF SOIL, CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS, WITHIN THE SEVERAL AGENCY DISTRICTS.

Southern Manitoba.

Manitoba naturally divides itself into four general districts: the valley of the Red River, which wends northward along the eastern edge, and is the well known country populated by the fur-traders, their half-breed employers and Lord Selkirk's colonists, a century ago; second, the southern border drained by the Souris river, called the

Souris plain; third, the valley of the Assiniboine and Little Saskatchewan rivers, or western-middle portion seen from the main line of the Canadian Pacific; and fourth, the low, marshy and somewhat wooded northern half surrounding lakes Manitoba and Winnipeg, only a little of which is at present attracting farmers.

Southern Manitoba is drained by the Souris river, which rises at the foot of the Côteau du Missouri, makes a long detour southward into Dakota and returns into Manitoba near the south-western corner, whence it takes a north-easterly course to its junction with the Assiniboine some distance below Brandon. Of its tributaries, the best known are the Moose Mountain and Pipestone creeks, the former south of Moose Mountain, and the latter coming from the northward of that elevation. East of the Souris the Pembina river gathers the drainage of southern Manitoba and empties it into the Red river.

This district is penetrated by two railways. The south-western runs from Winnipeg up the Assinboine valley, (but some distance south of that river) to Holland,Treherne, and Glenboro its present terminus, a station 105 miles from Winnipeg, and not far from the mouth of the Souris. The Pembina branch diverges at Rosenfeld from the railway to Morris and Gretna, along the western banks of the Red river, and thence runs westward through the Pembina valley to Deloraine, about 150 miles westward. Both roads will be extended as rapidly as settlement justifies it. Excepting the wooded hills and hollows of the broken and picturesque plateau called the Pembina Mountain, through which the river has cut a deep and winding ravine which the railway crosses, and some other limited spots, the whole of this vast region is undulating prairie covered with luxurious grass, dense and tall, so that it ripples and waves under the breeze with beautiful effect. There are many living streams, and in the southern part

several large lakes, one of which, Pelican, is the largest of a chain of half a dozen or more strung together in what was once the channel of a powerful river. This lake is thirteen miles long and bordered by steep and lofty cliffs which are densely wooded, and the resort of deer and game birds, while the water abounds in fine fish and flocks of wild fowl. These lakes are bordered by a line of elevations called the Tiger Hills, which furnish wood in abundance. The next largest body of water is White-water Lake, near Deloraine, many miles in breadth, shallow, and bordered by marshes that attract wild ducks in innumerable quantities. Many lesser lakes dot the landscape, and the wet depressions are so numerous that few quarter sections are without them. They are nowhere of great size, however, and are surrounded by luxuriant grass, so that the settlers regard them as an important advantage, affording natural hay in abundance and an unfailing supply of water for stock, for which this district is admirably adapted. In many spots, dry during all the summer months, moisture enough gathers to promote a plentiful growth of forage, so that the sowing of hay or other fodder is never thought of. Two tons of this wild hay per acre is not an unusual amount. The Souris valley is well occupied, and good roads traverse the country in every direction ; though, for that matter, one can drive across the prairie anywhere. Along the lower Souris are many village centres, where a post-office, stores, blacksmith shop, school and church, form the centre of a farming community, whose houses dot the surrounding knolls as far as the eye can reach. These extend all the way westward to the Moose Mountain settlements.

The climate of this part, which has been appropriately called "the garden of Manitoba," is not greatly different from that of the west, except that its southerly latitude gives it an advantage in respect to early springs and later autumns.

Government lands in this part of Manitoba are almost all taken, but much desirable land remains to be bought from the railway at from $2 50 to $10.00 (10s. to £2) an acre, according to distance from railway, etc. Improved property can be bought near the railway at from $5 to $15 (£1 to £3) an acre. Most of the houses here are built of logs, with a roof thatched with earth and straw, while the stables are log and pole structures thatched. Along the southern boundary a better class of structures prevails than on the lower Souris. The soil is deep and of almost inexhaustible richness. The growth of grasses and prairie herbages is remarkable, and astonishing crops of cereals and roots are recorded. Generally speaking, it is a very dark deep sandy loam, with the deposit of centuries of burned herbage, overlying gravel and coarse clay. The streams and most of the lakes and sloughs furnish clear and sweet water, and the banks are gravelly. Wells strike excellent water at a moderate depth. Every crop belonging to western Canada or the northern United States can be grown there to advantage. Indian corn (maize) is the only exception, and this comes so near to entrance into the list, that every farmer has a big patch of the sweet variety of it in his garden, as a matter of course. As good full-kerneled, well matured maize can be seen all over southern Manitoba as can be found in Iowa or Illinois. One instance of its success may be mentioned. In the spring of 1887, *Moore's Rural New Yorker*, one of the leading agricultural newspapers in the United States sent parcels of seed corn to different parts of the continent, and offered a prize for the best ear from this seed. Amongst others, a parcel of this seed was sent to Miss E. Fowler of Headingly, a station on the South Western railway, fourteen miles from Winnipeg. The young lady planted the seed and in due time the corn

came to maturity. A few ears were selected and forwarded to New York for competition with the whole continent; a short time later word was received that it had been placed at the head of the list.

In view of these facts it is fair to expect that an acclimated variety of maize may sometime become a profitable farm crop in southern Manitoba.

Potatoes and all classes of vegetables grow and reach amazing sizes. One acre of land yields from 300 to 320 bushels of potatoes, was Mr. G. W. Vis's report to the Amsterdam capitalists in 1883 :

"Turnips frequently weigh 25 lbs. each; cauliflowers and white and red cabbages from 15 to 25 lbs. each. Though few experimennts as yet have been made in the cultivation of fruit trees, it is an ascertained fact that apple-trees can be raised with a great deal of success."

On the Pembina Branch railway is a long line of flourishing villages—Morden, Manitou, Pilot Mound, Cartwright, Killarney (by the picturesque lake of that name) Boissevain and Deloraine, with lesser intermediate stations.

Morden is a brisk town of perhaps 1,000 people, and stands just west of the rough Pembina Mountain district, that is, on the eastern borders of the second prairie steppe. Fine farms surround it, but the chief source of its prosperity is in trading with the Mennonite settlements.

The Mennonites are a body of emigrants from Russia (though of German origin) who fled from persecution on account of their religion, which is a primitive form of Lutheranism. The Dominion Government, in 1876, set apart a large reserve for them between Morden and the International boundary, and loaned them sufficient money to make a beginning. They have fully justified the wisdom of this welcome and aid, and have overcome by their industry and perseverance every obstacle to success. They are a very peaceable contented and in-

dustrious people, and have prospered so well that their settlement has now become a very important one, extending over 18 townships and including 648 square miles of land, while their numbers have increased to over 9,000 persons. The isolation and almost patriarchal form of local government under which they lived at first is being gradually abandoned, and, there being no longer any necessity for the mutual protection, which in the beginning led them to combine their property, many individuals now possess independent homesteads and wealth. They have established among themselves schools, stores and every facility for obtaining supplies from persons of their own nationality ; but latterly the English language is being taught in their schools, where formerly only German was spoken, and this, it is hoped, will lead to a more sociable intercourse with their fellow Canadians.

Manitou is the next important village and has some thirty stores, shops, implement agencies, etc., and two elevators. It is on the treeless prairie, and fields of grain wave in every direction as far as the eye can reach. The chief Commissioner of the Hudson's Bay Company made a journey through this part of the country recently, and here is what he saw :

" I left Manitou on the morning of the 19th August and drove over a considerable area of country before starting westward. Fields of wheat, oats and barley were very numerous and the growth heavy. All were rapidly ripening. I passed on across the valley of the Pembina river, through Pilot Mound, Clearwater, Cartwright, Wakopa, and on to Deloraine, south of Whitewater lake. The crops greatly surprised me. They all stood up well, with a strong growth of straw and well headed out. In driving close to some large fields of wheat, their height, if I had driven through the field, would have entirely hidden the bodies of the ponies I was driving. All were rapidly ripening and turning brown, and were apparently beyond material injury from frost in the opinion of the settlers I conversed with.

" It is not beyond the truth to say that from Red river to Deloraine, a distance of about 140 miles on a straight line, is almost one continuous wheat field. I had driven over the same country four years ago and was

amazed at the great increase of settlement and cultivation, the improvement in the appearance of house and farm buildings, and the generally better condition of the people. Some parts, of course, are more thickly settled than others, but from the top of a small hill between Clearwater and Cartwright, I counted thirty houses, all with farm buildings attached."

Pilot Mound takes its name from a mound of gravel about 100 feet high, a mile north of the station, which served as a land mark to prairie travellers. It has shops, schools and elevators.

Killarney, besides being the market town for its district, is a place of pleasure-resort, due to the prettily wooded and broken country that environs its lake. It was in respect to this locality in particular that the following advice was given by Mr. C. A. Pringle, of Caledon, Co. Tyrone, Ireland, who visited Canada in 1881 as a delegate from Ireland, spent a month in studying southern Manitoba, and wrote a pamphlet, which was published by the Canadian Department of Agriculture :

" I have now given a short account of my visit to Manitoba and the Northwest, and after spending nearly a month in that district of country, and travelling upwards of 800 miles through it, meeting with all classes, for I stopped in the humblest shanties as well as the best hotels, I have no hesitation in recommending it as a field of emigration for Irishmen. When I looked on its boundless prairies, composed of the richest and most fertile soil, ready for the plough, I thought what a paradise it would be for thousands of Irish farmers who are struggling against high rents and taxes, bad seasons and low prices, to obtain at best but a scanty subsistence, without any prospect of bettering their condition or providing for their families. To all who are so struggling, I would say : 'Sell out for whatever you can get, and go to the northwest, and you will never regret doing so.'

" The large capitalist should go also ; he can invest his money at 9 per cent in real estate. There

'A man is a man if he's willing to toil,
'And the humblest may gather the fruits of the soil.'

" There is no disturbing element in society, all are loyal and contented, because they are prosperous, enjoying the fruits of their industry. All classes live well. There are no poor, and of course, no poor houses, as we have in Ireland. Every day, large numbers of immigrants are arriv-

ing at Winnipeg, principally from Ontario, which is called the garden of the Dominion. The Ontario farmers are a shrewd, intelligent people, and know their business well, and the fact of their going to Manitoba in such numbers, speaks well for the country.

Boissevain and Deloraine are flourishing centres, and are the shipping and supplying points for Turtle Mountain, the vicinity of Whitewater and Pelican lakes, and the upper Souris valley. Both have good stores, implement agencies, elevators, hotels, livery stables, and a rapidly increasing population.

In September, 1887, a party of some 200 representative farmers from Eastern Canada, notable for their intelligence and wealth, went to Winnipeg, and thence scattered through the country on tours of inspection. About seventy went into Southern Manitoba, to Deloraine and back. They were accompanied by several officers of the Provincial Government.

The citizens of the towns along the route, though given only a few hours' notice of their coming, arranged very creditable displays of produce at the stations, where the train stopped in each case long enough to let the excursionists examine the specimens. These were not "selected," but brought together in great haste, and represented very fairly what each locality was actually doing. At Morden, for example, one of the visitors, astonished at the size of the vegetables, jocosely expressed some doubt as to their genuineness, and turning to Mr. Maclaren, one of the exhibitors, asked him how much it had cost him to bring those potatoes from the Tennessee valley. Mr. Maclaren replied, "nothing," inasmuch as he had got them from his own garden. The visitor then wanted to see the garden and satisfy himself, and was straightway shown thither. In a few minutes he returned, carrying a potato considerably larger than any on exhibit, and which he had dug with his own hands.

At places reached after dark the people turned out with

torches to welcome the party, and a very pretty sight it was. Several got on board the train at different stations along the route, for the purpose of meeting old friends, and describing to them the agricultural resources, fertility and facilities for settlement offered by their respective districts. Mr. W. Stevenson, one of the largest threshers in southern Manitoba, was one of these visitors, and, on being asked the average yield per acre as shown in the threshing, said that in no case, so far, this season, had he threshed less than thirty-two bushels to the acre. He had threshed for Mr. Samuel Humphrey, at Miama, 670 bushels, being the yield of ten acres. This was the highest, although in several cases he had threshed fifty bushels off the acre.

On the return of the party many of the principal members gave their opinion of what they had seen, in the following brief way:—

A. T. Barnet, *Guelph, Ont.*

"The country is certainly better than I anticipated; and I find the farmers have made greater advancement than they could possibly have done in a country like Ontario, in the same length of time."

Henry Jarvis, *Brantford, Ont.*

The country far surpassed my most sanguine expectations; I have seen nothing, so far, in the natural features objectionable. As to roots, and I may say crops in general, I never saw their equal.

David Lambkin, *Brantford, Ont.*

It is the best district he has ever seen. "In fact," he says, "I do not think one could find a finer country. The produce I have seen on this trip could not be beaten."

David Nichol, *Farquhar, Ont.*

"I like the appearance of the country very much; and am of the opinion that the settler has good chances of success."

John Lambkin, *Brantford, Ont.*

"Look at those stacks of grain; we have nothing to touch them in Ontario."

Thomas Prier, *Exeter, Ont.*

Any man, who has fair health, and is at all industrious, is pretty sure

to make a success. I thinks the soil the blackest and richest I have ever seen.

THOMAS SHAW, *Cainesville, Ont.*

My impressions are very favorable; and I do not think I could speak too highly of the country. The improvement since I last visited the province, seven years ago, is wonderful.

WILLIAM CONNELL, POOLE, ONT.

"I may begin by saying that I am a native of Scotland, but have lived in Ontario for forty-four years, and could I have begun in such a country as Manitoba, I am certain I should be in a far better financial condition to day."

GEORGE PERDUE, FENELON FALLS, ONT.

"I would advise any of my friends, who contemplate moving, to move to southern Manitoba, as I consider the land very suitable for agricultural purposes."

F. E AVYS, SEAFORTH, ONT.

"I really think the country we have visited is as fine as any part I have seen. I have travelled through the principal portions of Dakota but in my estimation, Manitoba beats it."

MR. KELLY, REEVE OF BLYTH.

"Taking southern Manitoba as a whole, I do not think it can be excelled for farming purposes, and I have travelled over a large portion of the Northwest."

JAMES MARTIN, BRUCE AGRICULTURAL WORKS, TEESWATER, ONT.

"I think a great deal of the country. I found all the farmers greatly pleased with the change they have made in settling in Manitoba."

ARCHIBALD JOHNSON, ERAMOSA, ONT.

"The appearance of the country struck me at once. The ease with which the land can be brought under cultivation is surprising. The small percentage unfit for plow is remarkable; and the excellent condition of the cattle, as seen from the train, gives unmistakable evidence of the strength of Manitoba's grasses. I was surprised at the growth of roots and vegetables."

THE RED RIVER VALLEY AND NORTHERN MANITOBA.

This district can be disposed of in a few words, because it has been so long occupied that its extraordinary fertility is sufficiently well known. One instance of the yield on

a farm near Morris, on the western bank of the Red river, 43 miles south of Winnipeg, vouched for by the local newspapers, may be cited as an example of what can be done on land there :

" A farmer here has just threshed the immense yield of 800 bushels of grain from 19½ acres of land; 700 bushels of this brought him 54 cents per bushel. Another had 1,600 bushels from 25 acres of oats; but the general yield of wheat was from 30 to 35 bushels per acre. An estimate of the grain for export from this vicinity gives 225,000 bushels of wheat and 42,000 bushels of oats and barley. With 600 bushels per car, this makes 445 cars of grain, or 20 trainloads, allowing 22 cars per train."

In the immediate vicinity of Winnipeg there is little actual farming, except just along the banks of the Assiniboine and Red rivers, where, at Silver Heights, St. Boniface, Kildonan, St. Andrews, Selkirk and more distant spots within the limits of the old Scotch and Red river settlements, farms were flourishing half a century ago, and the soil still yields good harvests; but away from the river banks, south to La Salle, west as far as Reaburn and north to Stonewall, an unbroken meadow, of long grass, waves as level and green as a lawn.

A remarkable instance of successful farming in this neighbourhood has just come to light. We will let the owners of the farm speak for themselves :

WINNIPEG, December 21st, 1887.

J. H. McTAVISH, ESQ.,
Land Commissioner, C.P.R., Winnipeg.

DEAR SIR,—It may be interesting to you to know the result of our farming operations during the past season, upon land in the vicinity of Winnipeg, which is so often reported to be valueless and non-productive as farming land.

On the 24th of May we purchased 430 acres of land near Rosser Station, within 15 miles of Winnipeg, in a district in which there has hitherto been very little or no cultivation. We paid $7,500.00 for the property, the buildings on it alone (erected by an English "gentleman farmer," whose funds gave out) being worth that amount, consequently the land itself stands us nothing. The farm had not been cultivated, with the exception of 70 acres, for several years, and was consequently in a nearly wild state, having grown up to weeds, etc.

A Vegetable Garden in Manitoba.—From Photograph.

On the 27th May last we commenced ploughing, following up at once with the seeders, sowing at a rate of 2½ bushels per acre of wheat, and 3¼ bushels per acre of oats.

Of the 380 acres broken by us, the following division of crops was made :—

36 acres.....Wheat,
94 " .....Barley,
250 " .....Oats.

In addition to the above, our vegetables were put in a piece of land containing 32 acres, which had been cultivated, the acreage for each variety being :—

14 acres.....Potatoes,
16 " .....Turnips,
1 " .....Beets, Cabbages, Onions,
1 " .....Carrots, Radishes.

Our returns upon the above acreage were as follows :—

Wheat..... (Graded No. 1 hard)	900 bush. sold in Winnipeg, at	57c. per bush.	$ 513.00
Barley..... (Sold to Brewery for malting)	1900 "	40c. "	760.00
Oats.....	12750 "	25c. "	3187.50
Potatoes.....	3000 "	25c. "	750.00
Beets.....	50 "	50c. "	25.00
Onions.....	50 "	1.25 "	62.50
Carrots.....	50 "	50c. "	25.00
Radishes.....	50 "	40c. "	20.00
Turnips..... (Retained for our own use)	6000 "	12c½. "	750.00
Cabbages..... (Retained for our own use)	1600 head	3c. each	48.00
Hay..... (Cut alongside farm)	300 tons	4 00 per ton	1200.00
			$7341.00

We would particularly call your attention to the very late date upon which we began our work, our harvest having been done during the first week in August, a little over two months after seeding.

Yours truly,

(Signed,) EGAN BROS.,

Per EDWARD EGAN,

Corner Graham and Garry Streets, Winnipeg.

P.S.—You are doubtless aware that this is our first attempt at farming, our business being railway contracting, and, considering this fact, I feel that we have done remarkably well, as, barring our own work (we did not hire any labour), we realized enough from one crop to pay the original price of the land, and have now the valuable property to the good, and our success this year has decided us to adopt farming in Manitoba as our future calling.

Tell this, if you like, to the suffering farmers of Ontario, and if your story is doubted refer them to me and my brothers.

E. E.

THE CENTRAL PRAIRIE REGION.

The central prairie region, or "second steppe," extends from Carberry, on the Canadian Pacific, westward to Moose-jaw, a distance of nearly 300 miles, and includes the most thickly settled part of the prairie region. The principal towns along the main line of the railway are Carberry, Brandon, Virden, Elkhorn, Moosomin, Broadview, Qu'Appelle, Regina and Moose-jaw. The last four of these lie upon streams tributary to the Qu'Appelle river, which runs parallel with the railway a few miles northward.

In general it may be said, that this region has a lighter soil than that of the Red River valley and Southern Manitoba. It is less sticky, not so black, as a rule, dryer, but none the less fertile. The rainfall is nowhere insufficient for farming. There are some tracts of sandhills and coarse gravel, but these are utilized for grazing, and form but a small per centage out of the vast area of suitable surface. Except in the region surrounding Regina, there is everywhere an abundance of timber both for building purposes and for fuel.

Carberry is a village of some 400 people and forms the market town and shipping point for the great level tract known as the Beautiful Plains, which is almost entirely under cultivation.

Brandon is the next in size to Winnipeg, and numbers between three and four thousand people. It is growing rapidly, and is one of the pleasantest of western towns. An idea of its trade may be gained from the fact that, in the spring of 1887, no less than eighty self-binding harvesters, machines which cost from $200 to $250 apiece, were sent out from its implement agencies in a single day. The trade of Brandon extends to a great distance southward, in which direction is the largest part of the population, and where, after the Brandon Hills have been crossed, is

found as good soil as anywhere in the Assiniboine or Souris valleys. Five hundred acres in a single field of wheat is not an uncommon sight in this neighborhood.

The Assiniboine is here crossed by bridges which carry stage roads, and a railway, the North-west Central, now under construction northward to Rapid City, on the Little Saskatchewan river. Professor Macoun has the following to say in regard to the Little Saskatchewan :—

"All the district drained by this stream is generally fertile, but much broken by ponds and hay marshes. These, however, can be drained in most cases, and lands now rejected from this cause will be songht for in the future. Ponds and lakes are numerous. Wild fowl in great numbers visit them every spring and fall, and the river itself abounds in fish."

Rapid City is a thriving milling town, with water-power, and is the terminus of a branch railway following the river from Minnedosa. Between there and Minnedosa are some excellent farms and ranges. Minnedosa has 1,000 population, is one of the most enterprising and comfortable towns in Manitoba. Between it and Portage la Prairie, along the line of the Manitoba and North-western road, is a succession of villages occupying a beautiful high-lying and more or less bushy plain, the principal of which are Neepawa, Arden, Gladstone and Macdonald. These are in the valley of the White-mud River, which drains into Lake Manitoba.

Westward of Minnedosa, this railway crosses an extensive tract of very excellent land lying between the Little Saskatchewan and Birdtail rivers, in the midst of which is a chain of beautiful lakes. The best known of these is Shoal Lake, which is surrounded by an undulating country thickly dotted with bluffs of poplar and occasional marshes, affording abundance of both fuel and hay for the settler. This region is well settled and produces much stock, as well as wheat. Birtle, on Birdtail Creek, a

flourishing town, forms the market for this region, and for an extensive tract of country along the Shell River northward.

The place of next importance west of Brandon, on the Canadian Pacific Railway, is Moosomin, which is close to the western boundary of Manitoba; but Elkhorn, Virden, Wapella and Broadview, are all railway stations and market centres, approaching it in consequence. In the neighborhood of Virden, particularly, will be seen some of the richest farms and best houses anywhere in the Prairie region.

The principal settlements supporting this country are in the valley of Pipestone Creek, southward. This is an exceedingly fertile country, dotted with small lakes, and provided with an abundance of grass and timber thickets. The soil is of a most excellent character, and houses are within sight of one another in all directions. It is probable that no region of the prairie offers greater inducements at the present time to agricultural immigrants than that tributary to the villages between Brandon and Broadview.

The Canada Northwest Land Company owns an extensive tract of land here, which it is offering upon very advantageous terms. The best Government land is pretty well taken up, within a reasonable distance of the railway, but lands owned by the Canadian Pacific can be bought at from $2.50 to $6 an acre. Well improved farms are hardly in the market, but usually bring about $12 an acre. These will have from 30 to 60 acres under crop, with dwellings and stables sufficient for ordinary purposes.

The valley of the Pipestone bears a great resemblance to that of the upper Souris, already described, and is largely occupied by Scotch and English people, who have churches and schools, and among whom are scattered many families of large means. Moosomin is the station

for these, and Moose Mountain, sixty miles southward, at the foot of which lie English settlements numbering several hundred people, who have devoted themselves successfully not only to farming, but to the raising of cattle. They have postal facilities, stores, mills for grinding flour and sawing lumber, and form the nucleus of what will quickly develop into a populous and wealthy district. The south-western branch of the Canadian Pacific is pointing in that direction, and within two or three years, probably, this fine country will become directly accessible by rail, and will undergo rapid development. Much Government land is still free for homesteading in that neighborhood, and other lands can be purchased at very cheap rates. The soil is unusually fertile, and the character of the country makes cattle-raising and mixed farming peculiarly advantageous there.

At Indian Head, some distance beyond Moosomin, is the great Bell farm, concerning which so much has been written. This farm harvested enormous crops last year, the average of which, in both quality and yield per acre, was quite as high as that anywhere in the whole region, while the cost of production was somewhat less.

The next station beyond Indian Head, is Qu'Appelle. This place is peculiarly pleasant, on account of the great number of trees standing in the village and diversifying the surrounding landscape. The village is provided with excellent churches, schools, shops and factories. This is the station for stages to Fort Qu'Appelle, eighteen miles northward, where, around the old Hudson's Bay post, on the banks of the Fishing lakes, has grown up a village of some 500 people, the centre of a great stock-raising and farming district. The banks of the Qu'Appelle are peculiarly adapted to sheep pasturage and cattle-ranching, and the country northward and westward is an exceedingly fertile one, where settlement is progressing rapidly.

MEDICINE HAT, ASSINIBOIA.

Around Regina and Moose-jaw there is much less tree growth than on the prairies eastward. The soil, however, is marvellously rich, and is especially adapted to the raising of wheat, of which an enormous quantity has been produced the present year. Beyond Moose-jaw, except in the neighbourhood of Calgary, agriculture has not been tried to any great extent; but the experimental farms of the Canadian Pacific, situated at intervals of 20 to 50 miles between Moose-jaw and Calgary, have produced most excellent crops of all kinds of grain and vegetables, without irrigation or any other different methods than those an ordinary settler would use. A full account of the planting and results of these farms has been published in a pamphlet, which is issued by the Land Department of the Company, and can be had upon application to Mr. L. A. Hamilton, Land Commissioner, at Winnipeg, or Mr. Archer Baker, General European Agent of the Company, 17 James St., Liverpool.

MIXED FARMING AND STOCK-RAISING.

In addition to wheat, which is the standard and most largely cultivated grain, (Manitoba red Fyfe wheat brings a higher price in Liverpool than that of any other place on the globe) the soil of the Northwest yields bountifully of barley, oats, rye, millet, timothy-grass, lucerne, peas, flax, hops, every sort of root-crop, and all kinds of garden produce; while the women and children are delighted to find themselves able to cultivate flowers to any extent. Mushrooms are plentiful and often of gigantic size. Barley and rye give a magnificent yield—often forty bushels to the acre. Oats are very generally culti-

vated, and often form the first planting of the new settler. They incline to shorter straw and heavier heads than in the east, and produce fifty to seventy bushels. Millet and similar small grains grow excellently; as, also, do the fodder-plants, though these have been little cultivated, because there has been little need to supplement the natural hay-grasses. Hempen plants are indigenous all over the plains, so that it is not surprising to find that flax does exceedingly well in the Northwest, requiring ninety days to mature. The people living in northern Idaho, who are under very similar conditions, have long cultivated this plant, chiefly on account of the seed. In Manitoba the Mennonites planted it with their first crops, and now cultivate it to a large extent, both for fibre and seed; for the latter there is always a good home market, linseed-oil mills having been built in Winnipeg. Elsewhere, flax and hemp are grown, in scattered quantities, the total area of which is steadily widening.

Wild hops, pronounced by brewers to be of excellent quality, attain a luxuriant growth in many localities, the soil and climate of Manitoba, in particular, seeming peculiarly well fitted to them. Cultivated vines of this wild stock give as fine large hops as the vines of Kent, and their regular cultivation will prove highly profitable.

Wild peas, in some parts of the West, are plentiful and luxuriant; and crops of peas and beans have been found excellent wherever sown.

In respect to root-crops, it probably is not too much to say that no part of the world produces potatoes, turnips, onions and every kind of garden vegetables belonging to the cooler half of the temperate zone, with so great a luxuriance, and of so fine a quality, as the Canadian West.

The Department of Agriculture has published a statement respecting the suitability of Manitoba as a place for

settlement, based upon the answers of 153 farmers, whose names and addresses are given, and to whom reference may at any time be made. A copy of this statement in pamphlet form, entitled "What Farmers Say," will be furnished post free by any of the agents of the Canadian Government on application by letter. These farmers testify, among other things, to the amazing yield of root-crops, ninety-two of them reporting an average crop of 318 bushels of potatoes to the acre. W. H. Swain, of Morris, has produced 800 to 1,000 bushels of turnips to the acre, and sixty bushel of beans have also been raised by him per acre; S. C. Higginson, of Oakland, has produced cabbages weighing 17½ lbs. each; Allan Bell, of Portage la Prairie, has had cabbages 45 inches around, and turnips weighing 25 lbs. each; Thos. B. Patterson has realized forty tons of turnips to the acre, some of them weighing as much as 20 lbs. each; Robt. E. Mitchell, of Cook's Creek, raised a squash of six weeks' growth, measuring 5 feet 6 inches around the centre; Wm. Moss, of High Bluff, has produced carrots weighing 11 pounds each, and turnips measuring 36 inches in circumference; James Airth, of Stonewall, states that the common weight of turnips is twelve pounds each, and some of them have gone as high as thirty-two and a half pounds; Isaac Casson, of Green Ridge, has raised 270 bushels of onions to the acre; John Geddes, of Kildonan states that he has raised 300 bushels of carrots and 800 bushels of turnips per acre; John Kelly, of Morris, has produced from 800 to 1,000 bushels of turnips to the acre; Joshua Appleyard, of Stonewall, also states his crop of turnips to have been 1,000 bushels per acre, the common weight being 12 lbs. each; Ed. Scott, of Portage la Prairie' raised 400 bushels of turnips from half an acre of land. W. H. J. Swain, of Morris, had citrons weighing 18 lbs. each; Francis Ogletree, of Portage la Prairie, produced onions measuring 4¾ inches through the

centre; A. V. Beckstead, of Emerson, gives his experience as follows; mangel-wurzel weighing 27 lbs. each, beets weighing 23 lbs. each, cabbages weighing 49 lbs. each, onions each 1½ lbs. in weight; W. B. Hall, of Headingly, has raised carrots 3 inches in diameter, beets weighing 20 lbs. each, and gives the weight of his turnips generally at 12 lbs. each; Philip McKay, of Portage la Prairie, took 200 bushels of turnips from one quarter of an acre of land, some of them weighing 25 lbs. each; he has produced carrots 4 inches in diameter and 14 inches long, has had cabbages measuring 26 inches in diameter, solid head, and four feet with the leaves on; his onions have measured 16 inches in circumference, and cauliflower heads, 19 in. in diameter. James Lawrie and Bro., of Morris, have produced turnips 30 inches in circumference, onions 14 inches, and melons 30 inches; they had one squash which measured about the same size as an ordinary flour barrel. James Owens, of Pointe du Chêne, had turnips 30 lbs. each, onions, 14 inches around, and cucumbers 18 inches long; Neil Henderson, of Cook's Creek, has raised 1,000 bushels of turnips to the acre, carrots 5 inches in diameter and 18 inches long, while his onions have frequently measured 5 inches through; James Bedford, of Emerson, has raised 1,000 bushels of turnips to the acre. It must be remembered, moreover, that none of the farmers mentioned above used any special cultivation to produce the results described, and that the experience further west proves that everywhere, even in the comparatively dry region of Swift Current and Medicine Hat, and among the elevations of the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, garden products of the same kind flourish.

Even the less hardy kinds succeed well. You will see tomatoes growing out of doors and ripening well all over the prairies. The Indian Mission at Qu'Appelle grows them as well as they do at Winnipeg or Emerson Aspa-

ragus, tobacco, (but thus far the quality is poor) maize, melons of all kinds, and everything ordinarily in a garden, can be seen wherever a careful attempt has been made to make these more tender plants grow.

Wild fruits attain to great perfection in Manitoba and Assiniboia. Wild plums, raspberries, cherries, cranberries, and other berries abound, and are of luscious quality.

Apiculture is successfully carried on in the Northwest, of course, as bees require just such a clear, dry atmosphere and wealth of flowers as they find on the prairies. The honey secreted solidifies and becomes ready for sealing sooner than in a warm, moist climate, and is consequently sweeter. Bee culture will always take an important place among the home industries of the West. It has been said that the natural food products of the Canadian North West include twenty-one indigenous plants, thirty-two species of animals, eighteen fish and eighty-nine birds.

In connection with the farm, the raising of cattle, horses, swine and poultry can be carried on most advantageously, as all the land not under cultivation is pasture, and there are few quarter-sections unsupplied with good drinking-water. Pairs of working oxen weighing 3,500 pounds or more can be seen almost anywhere. The complete absence of any diseases is a point which should not be forgotten; and every care is taken by the local governments to prevent its introduction and to encourage live-stock breeding generally.

Dairy Farming.

One special resource which deserves every farmer's attention, is dairying. For milk, there is at present less demand than will come later, when the towns have grown into cities; but butter and cheese can be made for export with great profit. Cheese factories have been established at several points and are doing very well. The butter of Manitoba is famous for its excellence, and is

sent not only to all parts of the prairie region, but shipped east in large quantities, and even to Japan. At the Dominion Exhibition of 1887, in Toronto, the butter of Manitoba took the first prize, in competition with all Canada, greatly to the surprise and chagrin of some of the professional dairymen of Ontario. Items like the following, clipped from the *Call* newspaper of Winnipeg (October 27, 1887) are everyday occurrences, and show what butter-making amounts to there :—

"James Kelly, of Arnaud, Man., sold 2,149 pounds of butter to the Hudson's Bay Company which they pronounced to be the best butter bought by them this season, and for which he got the highest price in the market. He has been in Manitoba twelve years, and commenced farming here in 1880 with only one yoke of cattle, one log chain, a plow and $1 capital. He has now twenty-two milch cows, and has in all eighty-three head of stock, and has no debts and no incumbrances on his property. He advises all his countrymen to come and farm in Manitoba."

Testimony of Actual Settlers.

We cannot do better than close this pamphlet with a few of the many letters just received from actual settlers. Is there any other known country where such results can be obtained ?

"Kemnay, January 16th, 1888.

"I take great pleasure in giving a correct statement of all the crop I had on my farm, which is situated on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, seven miles west of the city of Brandon. I had 145 acres of wheat, from which the total yield the past season was 6,840 bushels. One piece of 45 acres of summer fallow gave 2,340 bushels, being an **average of 52 bushels per acre,** and 100 acres averaged 45 bushels per acre. I had also 45 acres of oats, which yielded 3,150 bushels, an **average of 70 bushels per acre.** Off 6 acres of barley I had 387 bushels. I planted about ¾ of an acre potatoes and had 225 bushels good dry mealy potatoes. The yield of roots and garden vegetables was large and of good quality. In conclusion, I would say that previous to coming to Ontario, Canada, I farmed in one of the best agricultural districts of Germany, and after coming to Canada I farmed twelve years in the county of Waterloo, Ont. I removed to Manitoba in March 1884, that summer I broke 190 acres, off which I reaped in 1885 a fine

crop of wheat fully as good as this year. My two sons have farms joining mine and their crops yielded equally as large as mine.

" I must say that farming has paid me better in this province than in Ontario or the Fatherland.

" (Signed), CHRISTAN SENKBEIL."

" From J. R. NEFF, Moosomin District, N. W. T.

" Range 30 and 31, Township 14, 4 miles from Station. Came to country 1883, and settled in present location. Amount of capital $12,000. Acreage now owned 4,000. Under crop in 1887, 600 acres, present capital $40,000. Yield per acre 1887. 30 bushels average. Live stock, 14 horses.

" I am pleased to give my experience since I came to this country. My success has been far beyond my expectations. I am fully convinced for extensive farming, wholly grain, or mixed farming, it cannot be surpassed.

" I think Moosomin district is equalled by few and surpassed by no other point in Manitoba or the North West Territories.

" Moosomin is a first class grain market and is growing rapidly in importance."

" W. Govenlock—S. 27, T. 11, R. 23, near Griswold. **Had 60 bushels of wheat per acre on 5 acres, and 37 bushels per acre on 250 acres.**

" Samuel Hanna—S. 7, T. 10, R. 22, near Griswold. **Had an average of 40 bushels of wheat per acre on 250 acres.**

" John Young—S. 1, T. 10, R. 23. **Had 75 bushels of wheat from one acre.**

" Alex. Johnston—Near Elkhorn. **Had an average of 41 bushels wheat per acre on 14 acres.**

" Geo. Freeman—Near Elkhorn. **Had an average of 37½ bushels of wheat per acre on 50 acres.**

" Thos. Wood—10 miles north of Virden. **Had an average of 63 bushels of wheat on 5 acres. (315 bushels of wheat from 5 acres.)**

" Rich. Tapp—South of Virden. **Had an average of 51 bushels of wheat per acre on 20 acres.**

" Thos. Bobier—Half mile north of Moosomin. **Had forty acres of wheat, averaging 38 bushels to acre.**

" J. R. Neff—Three miles north of Moosomin. **Had 115 acres of wheat, averaging 37 bushels per acre.**

" G. T. Cheasley—Four miles north-east from Alexander. **Had an average of 45 bushels per acre on 100 acres of wheat.**

" A. Nichol—Four miles north-east of Alexander. **Had 150 acres wheat, averaging 40 bushels per acre.**

" H. Touchbourne—Four miles north-west of Alexander. **Had an average of 40 bushels per acre on 100 acres of wheat.**

" W. Watt—South-west of Alexander. **Had 80 acres wheat with an average of 40 bushels per acre.**

" Robt. Rogers—Near Elkhorn. **Had 10 acres of wheat averaging 45 bushels per acre."**

NOTE.—Maps showing the through line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and the railways in Manitoba and the North-West Territories, accompany this pamphlet; and the Land Regulations of the Government and of the Company will be found on the covers. A pamphlet containing a very interesting compilation from letters from actual settlers entitled " A record of the Harvest of 1887," is now ready, and will be forwarded to any address on application to Mr. Lucius Tuttle, Passenger Traffic Manager, Montreal; Mr. L. A. Hamilton, Land Commissioner, Winnipeg or any of the Company's Agents in the Dominion.

MONTREAL, March, 1888.

Manitoba and the Northwest Territories of Canada

SHOWING THE LINES AND LAND GRANT OF THE

Canadian Pacific Railway.

THE COMPANY'S LANDS IN PART CONSIST OF THE ODD-NUMBERED SECTIONS IN THE BELT COLORED PINK.
THE REMAINING SECTIONS BEING GOVERNMENT HOMESTEAD LANDS

SOUTHERN MANITOBA—THE GARDEN OF THE PROVINCE—The lands along the Line of the Manitoba and Southwestern R'y, leased by the Canadian Pacific, and comprised within the uncolored belt in Southern Manitoba are now open for sale. For particulars of price, &c., of all the Company's Lands, apply to JOHN H. McTAVISH, Land Commissioner, Winnipeg.

48 miles from Stephen the summit of the Rocky Mountains and 858 m. from Pacific

FREE GRANTS, PRE-EMPTIONS, &c.

How to obtain them in the Canadian North-West.

DOMINION LANDS REGULATIONS.

Under the Dominion Lands Regulations, all Surveyed even-numbered sections, excepting 8 and 26 in Manitoba and the North-West Territories, which have not been homesteaded, reserved to provide wood lots for settlers, or otherwise disposed of or reserved, are to be held exclusively for homesteads and pre-emptions.

HOMESTEADS.—Homesteads may be obtained upon payment of an Office Fee of Ten Dollars, subject to the following conditions as to residence and cultivation:

In the "Mile Belt Reserve," that is the even numbered sections lying within one mile of the Main Line or Branches of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and which are not set apart for town sites or reserves made in connection with town sites, railway stations, mounted police posts, mining and other special purposes, the homesteader shall begin actual residence upon his homestead within six months from the date of entry, and shall reside upon and make the land his home for at least six months out of every twelve months for three years from the date of entry; and shall, within the first year after the date of his homestead entry, break and prepare for crop ten acres of his homestead quarter section; and shall, within the second year, crop the said ten acres, and break and prepare for crop fifteen acres additional; making twenty-five acres; and within the third year after the date of his homestead entry, he shall crop the said twenty-five acres, and break and prepare for crop fifteen acres additional—so that within three years of the date of his homestead entry, he shall have not less than twenty-five acres cropped, and fifteen acres additional broken and prepared for crop.

Land, other than that included in Mile Belt, Town Site Reserves, and Coal and Mineral Districts, may be homesteaded in either of the three following methods:—

1. The homesteader shall begin actual residence on his homestead and cultivation of a reasonable portion thereof within six months from date of entry, unless entry shall have been made on or after the 1st day of September in which case residence need not commence until the first day of June following, and continue to live upon and cultivate the land for at least six months out of every twelve months for three years from date of homestead entry.

2. The homesteader shall begin actual residence, as above, within a radius of two miles of his homestead, and continue to make his home within such radius for at least six months out of every twelve months for the three years next succeeding the date of homestead entry, and shall, within the first year from date of entry, break and prepare for crop, ten acres of his homestead quarter section; and shall within the second year crop the said ten acres, and break and prepare for crop fifteen acres additional—making twenty-five acres; and within the third year after the date of his homestead entry he shall crop the said twenty-five acres, and break and prepare for crop fifteen acres additional, so that within three years of the date of his homestead entry, he shall have not less than twenty-five acres cropped, and shall have erected on the land a habitable house in which he shall have lived during the three months next preceding his application for homestead patent.

3. The homesteader shall commence the cultivation of his homestead within six months after the date of entry, or if the entry was obtained after the first day of September in any year, then before the first day of June following; shall within the first year break and prepare for crop not less than five acres of his homestead; shall within the second year crop the said five acres, and break and prepare for crop not less than ten acres in addition—making not less than fifteen acres in all; shall have erected a habitable house on the homestead before the expiration of the second year, and on or before the commencement of the third year shall have begun to reside in the said house, and shall have continued to reside therein and cultivate his homestead for not less than three years next prior to the date of his application for patent.

In the event of a homesteader desiring to secure his patent within a shorter period than the three or five years as the case may be, he will be permitted to purchase his homestead, or homestead and pre-emption, as the case may be, on furnishing proof that he has resided on the homestead for at least twelve months subsequent to date of entry, and in case entry was made after the 25th day of May, 1883, has cultivated thirty acres thereof.

PRE-EMPTIONS.—Any homesteader may, at the same time as he makes his homestead entry, but not at a later date, should there be available land adjoining the homestead, enter an additional quarter section as a pre-emption, on payment of an office fee of ten dollars.

The pre-emption right entitles a homesteader, who obtains entry for a pre-emption, to purchase the land so pre-empted on becoming entitled to his homestead patent; but should the homesteader fail to fulfil the homestead conditions, he forfeits all claim to his pre-emption.

The price of pre-emptions, not included in Town Site Reserves, is two dollars and fifty cents an acre. Where land is north of the northerly limit of the land grant, along the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and is not within twenty-four miles of any branch of that Railway, or twelve miles of any other Railway, pre-emptions may be obtained for two dollars per acre.

Payments for land may be in cash, scrip, or Police or Military Bounty warrants.

TIMBER.—Homestead settlers, whose land is destitute of timber, may, upon payment of an office fee of fifty cents, procure from the Crown Timber Agent a permit to cut the following quantities of timber free of dues; 30 cords of wood, 1,800 lineal feet of house logs, 2,000 fence rails and 400 roof rails.

In cases where there is timbered land in the vicinity, available for the purpose, the homestead settler, whose land is without timber, may purchase a wood lot, not exceeding in area 20 acres, at the price of five dollars per acre cash.

Licenses to cut timber on lands within surveyed townships may be obtained. The lands covered by such licenses are thereby withdrawn from homestead and pre-emption entry, and from sale.

INFORMATION.—Full information respecting the land, timber, coal and mineral laws, and copies of the regulations, may be obtained upon application to THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, Ottawa, Ontario; THE COMMISSIONER OF DOMINION LANDS, Winnipeg, Manitoba; or to any of the Dominion Land Agents in Manitoba or the North-West Territories.

A. M. BURGESS, Dep. Minister of Interior.